

Reasons for an SRN (Special Response Notice)

- Disorderly conduct
- Discharge of a firearm
- Noise disturbance
- Minor in possession of alcohol
- Public indecency
- Criminal mischief
- Prostitution or related offenses
- Illegal gambling
- Alcoholic liquor violations
- Possession, manufacture, or delivery of a controlled substance or related offenses
- Endangering the welfare of a minor
- Harassment
- Assault
- Public consumption of alcohol
- Offensive littering
- Menacing
- Reckless endangering
- Begging
- Public urination
- Indecent exposure
- Parking on lawns
- Animal abuse, neglect, abandonment, or fighting, or dog fighting
- Animal noise

Special Response Notice means

City Ordinance Code 5.03.150

When a police officer determines that one or more persons are engaged in an activity or conduct which violates the provisions of the Corvallis Criminal Code [Municipal Code [Chapter 5.03](#)] or the Criminal Code of Oregon, the police shall give written notice to one or more of the persons who are engaged in, or who are in control of, such activity or conduct that the activity or conduct must immediately cease.

Notice recipients shall be liable for special response fees if a subsequent police response arising out of the activity or conduct is required within thirty (30) days following such notice. A special response fee will be charged to each person identified in subsection [5.03.150.020](#) of this Section. Separate fees shall be charged for the original and each subsequent police response. The special response fee is defined as the total cost incurred by the City in connection with such response, including but not limited to, police officers, equipment, dispatch and supervisor time.

ADDENDUM FOR THE CITY OF CORVALLIS ALCOHOL AND “SPECIAL RESPONSE FEE” ORDINANCE

Tenant names: _____

Property Address: _____

The purpose of the City of Corvallis Alcohol and “Special Response Fee” Ordinance is to stop the unlawful use and/or possession of alcoholic liquor that contributes to the degradation of and poses substantial risks to the public health, safety and welfare concerns for Corvallis citizens.

Alcohol:

Providing alcohol to any person under the age of 21 years is a Class A Misdemeanor. Upon conviction, the Court shall impose at least a mandatory minimum sentence:

- First conviction: \$500.00
- Second conviction: \$1,000.00
- Third conviction: \$1,500.00 and not less than 30 days of imprisonment

“Special Response Notice”

When a police officer determines that one or more persons are engaged in an activity or conduct which violates the provisions of the Corvallis Criminal Code or Criminal Code of Oregon, the police office shall give written notice to those persons and that activity or conduct must immediately cease. The Special Response Notice fee will reflect the total cost incurred by the City in connection with such response, including but not limited to the police officers, equipment, dispatch and supervisor time. If the person responsible for, or engaged in, the activity is a minor, the minor’s parents or guardians shall also be liable for the fee. The City Manager will set the fee amount and the appropriate procedures for billing.

This addendum is made part of the rental agreement for the premises identified above.

Tenants or someone in the tenant’s control (member of the tenant’s household, guest, or persons invited to the property by the tenants shall not engage in criminal activity, including illegal drug activity on or near the premises, and shall not engage in ANY activity that constitutes a threat or a nuisance to people or property on or near the premises.

Tenants understand that issuance of a “Special Response Notice” citation by the Corvallis Police Department shall constitute non-compliance with the Rental Agreement and **MAY** result in eviction from the property. Tenants will be financially responsible for all damage resulting from their failure to comply with the “Special Response Notice” Addendum.

_____	_____	_____
<i>Lessor</i>		<i>Lessees</i>
_____	_____	_____

Town and Gown: How police charged \$952 for a loud party

April 17, 2013 9:00 am • By JAMES DAY, Corvallis Gazette-Times

Special response notices

Police can issue warning citations (also known as special response notices, or SRNs) when they suspect violations of law. If the police return to the same residence within 30 days and issue another special response notice, those responsible are billed for the second call, including officer time, administrative overhead and vehicle use. Bills range from \$50 to more than \$1,000.

The \$952 charge

A special response notice tally:

Date: Aug. 8, 11:24 p.m.

Location: Southwest Leonard Street

4 officers for 705 minutes at \$47.98 per hour plus administrative cost of \$15 per hour, subtotal: \$740.25

1 sergeant for 180 minutes at \$55.75 per hour plus administrative cost of \$15 per hours, subtotal: \$212.40

Grand total: \$952.65

On Wednesday, Aug. 8, the Corvallis Police Department received a loud party complaint for an apartment on Southwest Leonard Street.

The police report noted that the department had experienced previous problems at that address. The officer parked one block away and heard the sound of loud music and thumping bass. Voices could be heard above the sound of the music. The officer was 300 feet away. It was 11:24 p.m. Officers would remain at that site for nearly four hours, interviewing witnesses and neighbors and arresting four people in the apartment.

At the end of the night, the party had racked up a bill from the police for \$952.65.

As part of its continuing examination of the OSU-city collaboration, and to get a better sense of how Corvallis police come up with the charges on a “special response notice,” the Gazette-Times reviewed invoices for two SRN bills.

The Southwest Leonard case is the largest such bill the department has levied to date in 2012 under its special response notice (SRN) program. A residence can receive a special response notice for quality-of-life issues such as loud parties or liquor violations. If the police come back under similar circumstances within 30 days, the residents are billed for the call. The police charge for officer time, administrative overhead and vehicle use.

The tool has come into public prominence as Corvallis has worked to cope with behavioral issues in neighborhoods affected by enrollment growth at Oregon State University.

The neighborhood livability workgroup of the Collaboration Corvallis project, which is charged with solving OSU-city issues, has spent hours examining the special response notice and looking at ways to make it more effective.

Among the options considered have been:

- Increasing the probationary period to 60 days or 90 days.
- Charging second-time special response notice recipients retroactively for the first call.
- Adding a civil fine to the special response notice process.

The first invoice the Gazette-Times reviewed, which resulted in a bill for \$66.90, was a simple noise complaint for a party Sept. 15 on Northwest 26th Street. An officer and a sergeant spent a combined 36 minutes at the call.

The August incident on Southwest Leonard was a different breed of cat. And it's ironic that amid concerns about student behavior on weekends the highest special response notice bill to date in 2012 came on a Wednesday in August in a neighborhood miles from the campus.

The Southwest Leonard invoice notes that the police had issued a notice for a disorder violation for Monday, July 16 at 11:20 p.m.. Police came back Aug. 8 to a cacophony of noise. Residents failed to respond to knocks on the door, a ringing of the doorbell or the announcement by officers that the police were outside.

Eventually the officers had to wake up a judge to arrange for a search warrant, which Police Department Capt. Dave Henslee said is a rare occurrence. At that point backup officers were dispatched as a routine precaution.

During the 10 minutes that the officers were outside arranging for the warrant, the music was turned off. Officers could hear whispering inside the apartment and somebody closed the windows and blinds.

Once the search warrant was in place officers forced open the door and busted the party. Four people were arrested on charges ranging from misdemeanors (unlawful amplified sound, providing alcohol to minors, hosting a party for minors) to violations for minors in possession.

One person was taken to jail, while three others were cited at the scene.

The four officers and one sergeant at the apartment spent a combined 14.25 hours working on the call. Residents were charged at a \$47.98 hourly rate for the four officers and \$55.75 hourly rate for the sergeant.

Administrative and vehicle costs of \$15 per hour were added for each of the five police representatives.

Henslee said that such lengthy investigations are necessary to sort out what happened and talk with witnesses and neighbors.

Also, police include on the special response notice bill the time it takes to transport and process anyone arrested. The time required to file a report on the call is not included in the invoice. If a recipient does not pay the bill it is referred to a collection agency as in other civil penalties.

Contact reporter James Day at jim.day@gazettetimes.com or 541-758-9542. Follow at [Twitter.com/jameshday](https://twitter.com/jameshday) or gazettetimes.com/blogs/jim-day